

GREENSBORO PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Wednesday, January 13, 2010 – 6:00pm

Lewis Recreation Center – 3110 Forest Lawn Drive

PRESENT MEMBERS: Rose Marie Ponton (Chair), Carl Brower, Jr (Vice-Chair), Zach Crutchfield, Ken Free, Lori Galbreath, Steve Moore

ABSENT MEMBERS: Marc Bush

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve Branson, Paul Brown, Kathy Cates, Phil Hardin, John Hughes, Greg Jackson, Jean Jackson, Cathy Justice, Mary Alice Kurr-Murphy, Lynne Leonard, Dan Maxson, Barbara McKenzie, Nasha McCray, Weesie Person, Clint Richardson, Marcie Richardson, Mike Simpson, Neil Thompson, Laurie Thore, Dr. Anthony Wade, Bernadette White, Chris Wilson

The regular meeting of the Greensboro Parks and Recreation Commission was held at Lewis Recreation Center. Rose Marie Ponton, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the November 11, 2009 Commission Meeting were approved as submitted.

Recognitions

Ponton announced that Commission Member, Paul Brown's, term has expired. Ponton introduced Zach Crutchfield new Commission Member.

Dr. Anthony Wade, Interim Director, introduced new Parks and Recreation Director, Greg Jackson, whose employment will be effective January 16, 2010. Jackson is relocating from Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation.

Dr. Wade recognized Neil Thompson, Clint Richardson, and Laurie Thore who received an award for best organized presentation during City Academy. Dr. Wade also recognized Sue Davis who was unable to attend.

Lewis Recreation Center Presentation

Phil Hardin, Recreation Center Director, presented the Commission with historical information regarding the center and events and programs currently held at the center.

OLD BUSINESS

Farmer's Market Work Group Progress Report

Carl Brower, Jr, Vice-Chair read the attached recommendations that are a result of the Farmer's Market Work Group and previously held public meetings.



Recommendations.doc
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Ponton stated these recommendations will be posted for 30 days allowing for public comment and will call for Commission vote at the next Commission meeting.

2010 Parks and Recreation Proposed Fee Schedule

Dan Maxson, Administrative Services Manager, returned to the Commission requesting approval of the 2010 Parks and Recreation Proposed fee schedule. No public comments were submitted in the last 30 days. The fees would become effective upon adoption if the Commission desires.

Mary Alice Kurr-Murphy, City Arts Superintendent, confirmed that no comments were received regarding the new fee structure for the City Arts. A sliding scale was created for those who are a profit making organization where they would be charged a higher fee than those who are emerging artists, etc. Most welcomed the idea of having a fee structure that would perhaps encourage emerging artist to have a location to present and teach.

Action Taken

A motion was made by Carl Brower, Jr. and seconded to adopt the proposed 2010 Parks and Recreation fee schedule. A vote in favor was unanimous.

Southwest Recreation Center

Ponton reported that last month the Commission received a request from Guilford County to re-name the Southwest Recreation Center to alleviate confusion with Guilford County's Southwest Park. Ponton recommended temporarily naming the facility Hilltop Park.

Action Taken

A motion was made by Carl Brower, Jr. and seconded to temporarily re-name Southwest Recreation Center to Hilltop Park. A vote in favor was unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS

Barber Park Master Plan Phase II

Nasha McCray, Planning and Project Development Manager, informed the Commission that a Barber Park Master Plan Phase II public meeting will be held January 26, 2010 from 6:00pm-7:30pm at Barber Park Simkins Pavilion. The purpose is to update the public on the project. Phase I has been virtually completed. As part of this process McCray requested 2 Commission Members to assist staff on the construction team. Carl Brower, Jr. and Zach Crutchfield will serve to assist the construction team.

Capital Improvement Program

McCray requested 2 Commission Members, in addition to the Chair, to assist with the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) process. This process is for 2010-2016 projects. The projects are a result of citizen requests, public meetings, and the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Lori Galbreath and Steve Moore will serve to assist with the CIP.

ADDENDUM

Cultural Arts Center

John Hughes, Youth and Community Programs Manager, introduced Barbara McKenzie. McKenzie is currently employed by the Greensboro Coliseum and will be transferred to Parks and Recreation to serve as the Cultural Arts Center Coordinator. Her primary responsibility will be to coordinate events at that entire facility. This will assist the facility in becoming more organized with scheduling events. McKenzie previously worked at the Cultural Arts Center. Hughes stated that fee increases are being proposed for the Cultural Arts Center as they have not been increased in more than 4-5 years. Hughes turned this item over to McKenzie.

McKenzie stated that she is hopeful to make a difference with the building tenants and citizens. Hours of operation are 8:00am-10:00pm, Monday – Friday, 9:00am-6:00pm on Saturday, and 1:00pm-6:00pm on Sunday. There are 14 non-profit groups utilizing the Cultural Arts Center with 2 soon to be added. McKenzie recommended that the rental amount of the rooms and Festival Park be increased for outside users as these prices have not increased in several years and are considerably lower compared to local organizations. Tenants are not and would not continue not to be charged.

The proposed fees will be posted for 30 days allowing for public comment and will be presented at the next Commission meeting.

SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

Pat Koegl, 594 Fox Briar Dr, requested that copies of the Farmer's Market Work Group recommendations be available for viewing.

Ponton replied stating the recommendations will be posted for public viewing and posted on the Parks and Recreation website.

Tim Crause, Alamance County, inquired if there would be any additional public opportunities to speak to the Farmer's Market item.

Ponton replied stating that there have been meetings have already been held for speaking opportunities; however public comments will be welcomed the next 30 days.

INTERIM DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Dr. Wade thanked the Commission and staff for all efforts and stated that he has enjoyed having the honor and opportunity to be the Parks and Recreation Interim Director.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Ken Free welcomed the new director and informed the Commission that the Metropolitan Baseball Inner-city Classic will be returning this season to utilize Greensboro Parks and Recreation facilities.

Steve Moore congratulated those who were recognized for receiving the City Academy award. Moore commended the tennis facility staff on their efforts with the tennis facilities, as he is and USTA competitive tennis player and utilizes these type facilities. Moore stated that it was honor to serve on the Farmer's Work Group. All members of the work group listened to who came forth and he feels as though it was a fair process for all involved. Moore congratulated staff on City Council's approval of Keeley Park.

Lorie Galbreath welcomed the new director.

Carl Brower, Jr, welcomed the new director and wished the best to the Interim Director.

Zach Crutchfield informed the Commission that he has worked with many organizations. He gave credit to the Farmer's Market Work Group for their efforts.

Rose Marie Ponton thanked Dr. Wade for all he has done assisting the Commission. Ponton welcomed the new director and stated she looks forward to new ideas and working with new leadership.

With no further business Ponton adjourned the meeting at 6:57pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marcie Richardson, Executive Assistant
Greensboro Parks and Recreation